

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this Application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

After entry of the foregoing Amendment, Claims 1, 4-6, 9-11, 14-16, and 19-21 are pending in the present Application. Claims 1, 6, 11 and 14-16 have been amended. Support for the amendment of Claims 1, 6, 11 and 14-16 can be found at least at Figs. 21 and 32 as well as corresponding portion of the specification. No new matter has been added.

By way of summary, the Official Action presents the following issues: Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 11, 15, 16, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Prust (U.S. Patent No. 6,714,968) in view of Burson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,405,245, hereinafter Burson), in further view of Cohen (U.S. Patent No. 6,356,941), in further view of Applicant's Background section (hereinafter "Applicants' Background"); and, Claims 4, 9, 14, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being anticipated by Prust, Burson, Cohen, and Applicants' Background, in further view of Hayes Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,339,826, hereinafter Hayes).

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

The outstanding Official Action has rejected Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 11, 15, 16, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Prust in view of Burson, in further view of Cohen, in further view of Applicant's Background. The Official Action states that Prust discloses all of the Applicants' claim limitations with the exception of providing a universal resource locator (URL) defined, in part, by user registration data. The Official Action cites the Applicants' Background section as describing this feature. Additionally, the Official Action notes that Burson and Cohen disclose receiving one or more automatic upload programs, transferring a control file used for controlling access used by another user, and the

establishment of personal storage areas. The Official Action states that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the cited references for arriving at the Applicants' claims. Applicants' respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, an information processing device, including:

... connection means for allowing each of said automatic upload programs to perform connection processing automatically to said access point in the said server via actuation of a corresponding upload icon; and

transfer means for writing the content file to be distributed to the exclusive storage area automatically when connection processing is performed and for transferring the associated control file controlling distribution of the transferred content file from the server, the control file including the condition data set up through the interface and user information data related to the user registration.

Prust describes a computing environment (200), in which client computers (205) access a storage network (220). The storage network includes individual storage areas (225), which can be assigned to different users.¹ Upon registration, the storage network allocates a specific storage area to a user. Access methods include utilizing a user interface of a local operating system of the client computer. In another embodiment, the user-designated storage area may be accessed by a web browser.²

Burson describes a method for automated access of personal information. API engine (240) is provided for implementing a "spring board technology" such that an access point of the web document can be quickly linked to a user. In this way, tedious web navigation can be avoided.³

¹ Prust at column 4, lines 52-63.

² Prust at column 5, lines 28-31.

³ Burson at column 14, line 44 through column 15, line 18.

Cohen describes a network vault whereby users can access a personal storage area. The user has control over access to their storage area or “network vault (228)”.⁴

Conversely, in an exemplary embodiment of the Applicants’ claimed advancement, an information processing device is provided and includes utilization of automatic upload programs to perform connection processing automatically to an access point in a server via actuation of a corresponding upload icon and to provide an interface for editing condition data to manage distribution of an associated content file. A data file and the associated control file are transferred automatically upon connection processing. The control file includes condition data set up through the interface and user information data related to the user registration.

Cohen merely describes logging into a server to adjust permission of a storage area, it does not disclose or suggest providing a control file in association with a data file, nor does it disclose or suggest providing a control file which includes condition data and user information data related to a user registration as recited in Applicants’ amended Claim 1 or any claims depending therefrom. Likewise, as independent Claims 6, 11 and 16 recite substantially similar limitations discussed above; Applicants submit that these claims and the corresponding dependent claims are likewise allowable over the cited references.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 11, 15, 16, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.

The outstanding Official Action has rejected Claims 4, 9, 14, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being anticipated by Prust, Burson, Cohen, and Applicant’s Background, in further view of Hayes). The Official Action cites Prust, Applicants’ Background section, and Burson as disclosing all of the Applicants’ claim limitations, with the exception of an icon for driving

⁴ Cohen at column 9, lines 2-7 and 20-22; column 15, line 61 to column 16, line 3.

an automatic upload program. The Official Action cites Hayes as disclosing this more detailed aspect of the Applicants' invention, and states that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the cited references for arriving at the Applicants' claims. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

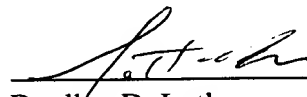
As discussed above, none of Prust, Burson or Cohen, either alone or in combination, suggests all of the elements of the Applicants' claims, as Hayes does not remedy the deficiency discussed above. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established. Therefore, Hayes does not anticipate, or render obvious, the subject matter defined by the present claims when considered alone or in combination with Prust and/or Burson. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 4, 9, 14, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Consequently, in view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present Application, including Claims 1, 4-6, 9-11, 14-16, and 19-21, is patently distinguished over the prior art, in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

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